deficit State from the very beginning and has the highest debt which by the end of 2001-2002 has risen to 24,000 crore and is unsustainable;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration for waiver of the old outstanding loans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Government are aware of the recurring deficit and debt position of Orissa.

(b) and (c) The Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) had recommended a general Debt Relief Scheme for States. The Government of India have accepted the recommendations of EFC. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the State towards fiscal consolidation, Government of India put forward a proposal for debt swap to enable all States, including Orissa, to retire high cost debt.

(d) Does not arise.

Kanpur Irrigation Project

2326. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Kanpur Irrigation Project in Orissa is pending with the Centre for investment clearance;

(b) whether Government are also aware that all other statutory clearances have already been given in the matter; and

(c) if so, the present status of the case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Kanpur Irrigation (Major) Project in Orissa envisaging annual irrigation to 47,709 hectare has already been accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission on 16/9/2002 for Rs. 428.32 crore.